

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1-23 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 24-43 are added. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claims 1-23 (Cancelled.)

Claim 24. (New.) A variant of a parent Termamyl-like alpha amylase, wherein said variant has alpha-amylase activity and comprises a mutation at a position corresponding to position H405 or H406 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

Claim 25. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant has at least 80% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:6.

Claim 26. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant has at least 85% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:6.

Claim 27. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant has at least 90% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:6.

Claim 28. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant has at least 95% sequence homology with the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO:4 or SEQ ID NO:6.

Claim 29. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant comprises a mutation at positions corresponding to positions 405 and 406 in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 30. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant comprises a mutation at a position corresponding to position 405 in SEQ ID NO:2.

Claim 31. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant comprises a mutation at positions corresponding to positions 406 in SEQ ID NO:2

Claim 32. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the variant exhibits and alteration relative to said parent in its pH-stability profile.

Claim 33. (New.) The variant of claim 24, wherein the parent Termamyl-like alpha amylase is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) the *B. licheniformis* alpha-amylase having the sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 2;
- (b) the *B. amyloliquefaciens* alpha-amylase having the sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 4; and
- (c) the *B. stearrowthermophilus* alpha-amylase having the sequence shown in SEQ ID No. 6.

Claim 34. (New.) A detergent composition comprising an alpha-amylase variant as defined in claim 24.

Claims 34. (New.) A detergent composition as defined in claim 33, further comprising a second enzyme selected from the group consisting of a protease, a lipase, a peroxidase, another amylolytic enzyme, a cellulase, and combinations of any of the foregoing.--

Claim 36. (New.) A manual or automatic dishwashing detergent composition comprising an alpha-amylase variant as defined in claim 24.

Claim 37. (New.) A dishwashing detergent composition as defined in claim 36, further comprising a second enzyme selected from the group consisting of a protease, a lipase, a peroxidase, another amylolytic enzyme, a cellulase, and combinations of any of the foregoing. --

Claim 38. (New.) A method for textile desizing comprising contacting a textile with an alpha-amylase variant as defined in claim 24.

Claim 39. (New.) A method for starch liquefaction comprising contacting starch with an alpha-amylase variant as defined in claim 24 under conditions sufficient for liquefying said starch.

Claim 40. (New.) A nucleic acid sequence encoding the variant defined in claim 24.

Claim 41. (New.) A DNA construct comprising the nucleic acid sequence of claim 40.

Claim 42. (New.) A recombinant expression vector comprising the DNA construct of claim 41.

Claim 43. (New.) A cell which is transformed with the recombinant expression vector of claim 42.